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kind of men not being appointed as Commissioners and said that care should be taken to appoint the right men.

Dewan's reply.—The High Court will be addressed.

35. Appointment of proper persons as Commissioners in Civil Courts.

Mr. K. Raman Tampi (Member, Vilavancode Taluk) said that Commissioners were now being appointed by the Civil Courts on a much larger scale than before. There were several cases in which Commissioners were appointed and the decisions of the Courts were also mostly in accordance with their reports. It could be imagined therefore to what extent the interests of the parties depended on those men. In spite of all circulars and orders, the proper men were not being appointed as Commissioners. The Commissioners in several instances were the dependants of the Munsiffs or the Judges. The desirability of employing men other than Court officials as Commissioners had been brought up at the Third Assembly and a favourable reply was also given. But the rule was not observed in practice. The Member said that the same kind of care that was exercised in the appointment of Judges was necessary in selecting the Commissioners. He also added that, where both the parties to a suit jointly applied to the Court for the appointment of a certain person as Commissioner, such an application should invariably be granted.

Dewan's reply.—The attention of the High Court will be called to the representation made by the Member.

36. Appointment of a Mahomedan Judge in the High Court.

Mr. Ibrahim Pillai Syed Mahomed (Member, Nominated) requested that a Mahomedan Judge might be appointed to the High Court to represent the interests of the Mahomedan community.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

37. Appointment of Village Munsiffs and Village Panchayets.

Mr. M. Sivathanu Pillai (Member, Thovala Taluk) said that the people underwent a lot of inconvenience and pecuniary loss in taking petty suits to the Courts and getting a decision. For fear of the expense, several cases were not taken to the Courts at all. But if such cases were not taken, one effect would be the increase of crime. If therefore Village Munsiffs and Village Panchayets (consisting of 8 men) were appointed for each village, petty civil suits up to Rs. 20 in value and petty criminal cases might be entrusted to them. The question had been brought forward at the previous Assemblies. The Government recently issued a G. O. declining to take action, as the High Court were of opinion that the system was unsuitable.

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to and unworkable in Travancore. That opinion, the Member said, reflected badly on the people of Travancore. Travancore followed British India in all other matters, and the Member failed to see why the Village Panchayet system should not be tried here. As for the men, he said, there were several educated men in the State. If Village Munsiffs and Panchayets could be appointed, several of the Additional Munsiffs' Courts might be abolished. The change would be beneficial to the public and profitable to the Government. He therefore prayed that the matter might be reconsidered.

Mr. M. C. Mathevan Pillai, B. A. (Member, Kalkulam Taluk) said that he fully supported the views of Mr. Sivathanu Pillai. With all deference to the High Court, he said that the system would, if tried, be found to work well in the State. There was also no lack of men, either in point of education or of general capacity. In the G. O. reviewing the work of the Civil Courts, recently published in the Gazette, it was stated that the High Court were in favour of appointing Honorary Magistrates. The Member said that he could not reconcile that position with the view of the High Court in regard to the Panchayet system. He therefore advocated the trial of the latter system, and added that, as suggested by Mr. Sivathanu Pillai, suits of the value of Rs. 20 and below might be entrusted to the Village Panchayets.

Dewan's reply.—The Government will again look into this question and see if anything can be done.

38. Exemption of Mahomedans from attendance in Courts on Fridays.

Mr. Kochu Hassan Kunju (Member, Nominated) said that Friday was a specially religious day for Mahomedans, and they had to go to the Mosques on that day, where religious services and lectures were held. He therefore requested that arrangements might be made not to post cases on Fridays in which Mahomedans had to appear as parties or as witnesses.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

IV. PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

(1). Agriculture.

39. Helpless condition of the agricultural classes in general and remedies for the same.

Mr. C. Padmanabha Pillai (Member, Quilon Taluk) said that the boon conferred on the people of Travancore by the creation of the Agricultural Department was certainly incalculable, but he was sorry to observe that they were not permitted to enjoy all the benefits that could be had from the Department, as, under existing